

REMARKS

In the Restriction Requirement mailed April 9, 2009, claims 65-81 were restricted by the Examiner from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the restriction of claims 65-81.

As explained during the telephone conference with the Examiner on June 9, 2009, independent claims 65, 72 and 78 (restricted by the Examiner) are sufficiently related to the invention as originally claimed in allowed independent claim 26 to warrant examination in the present application.

For example, the invention as originally claimed in allowed claim 26 includes the limitations:

a first flexible film having a peripheral portion;

a second flexible film laminated directly to the peripheral portion of the first flexible film;

a first dipole antenna disposed directly on the first film; and

a single integrated circuit having substantially all circuitry formed on a surface of the integrated circuit facing the first film, the integrated circuit being coupled to the first dipole antenna and including memory to store an identification number, a receiver coupled to the first dipole antenna to receive and decode data from a spread spectrum signal in the range of approximately 200MHz to 10GHz, control logic to perform a comparison between the received data and at least a portion of the identification number, and a transmitter coupled to the first dipole antenna to transmit a response based on the comparison.

Each of Applicant's independent claims 65, 72 and 78 (restricted by the Examiner), includes limitations similar to those directed to the invention of allowed claim 26. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 65, 72 and 78 are certainly not distinct enough from allowed claim 26 to warrant being restricted from the present application.

Please consider the limitations in each of claims 65, 72 and 78 that are common to the invention of claim 26. For example, claim 65 includes:

a first flexible plastic film having a first surface upon which a first dipole antenna is directly disposed, wherein the first surface comprises a peripheral region at least partially surrounding the first antenna;

a second flexible material having a second surface laminated directly to the peripheral region of the first surface; and

a single integrated circuit coupled to the first antenna and including memory to store a value, a receiver coupled to the first antenna to receive and decode data from an RF signal in the range of 800MHz to 8GHz, control logic to make a comparison between the data and the value, and a transmitter coupled to the first antenna to provide a response based on the comparison.

Applicant's independent claim 72 also includes the similar limitations of:

a first thin polymer film having a dipole antenna disposed over a first surface of the first film, wherein the first surface comprises an outer boundary;

a second thin layer of material having a second surface laminated directly to the outer boundary; and

an integrated circuit coupled to the antenna and including memory storing a code, a receiver to receive data from an RF signal in the range of 800MHz to 8GHz, control logic to use the code and the data to determine if a response is appropriate, and a transmitter to communicate the response if the control logic determines the response is appropriate; and

Lastly, Applicant's independent claim 78 includes the following similar limitations as well:

a respective first sheet having a respective first surface on which a respective first dipole antenna is disposed;

a respective second sheet a respective second surface laminated to a portion of the respective first surface;

a respective integrated circuit coupled to the respective antenna and including respective memory configured to store a respective value, a respective receiver configured to receive a wireless signal from an interrogator at a frequency of 800MHz to 8GHz, and a respective transmitter to communicate the respective value to the interrogator; and

Therefore, as illustrated above, Applicant's independent claims 65, 72 and 78 (restricted by the Examiner), are sufficiently related to the invention as claimed in the allowed independent claim 26 to permit claims 65, 72 and 78 to remain in the present application. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that independent claims 65, 72 and 78 and their respective dependent claims not be restricted from the present application.

Moreover, considering the close relationship of independent claims 65, 72 and 78 to allowed claim 26, Applicant further submits that independent claims 65, 72 and 78, as well as their respective dependent claims, are in condition for allowance.

If there are any charges due, authorization is hereby given to charge them to our Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Respectfully submitted,

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